

# The Jackson County Journal

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE IN THE COUNTY

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 5, 1939

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

## Ward Is Elected Speaker Of House, Wednesday

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—D. L. Ward of Caven, was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, over W. E. Fenner of Nash and Victor Bryant of Wake.

W. Erskin Smith, of Stanly was elected president pro tem of the Senate.

(By Dan Tompkins)

Raleigh January 4.—With the election of the Speaker and the other officers of the General Assembly behind it, the House and Senate got going for a good start, and is ready to go to work in earnest upon the many problems that the past biennium have brought to the State.

All the officers were nominated at the caucus of the Democratic members of Senate and House meeting separately last night. The election was but a matter of form, for it was all settled in the caucuses last night.

Candidates for Speaker were Victor Bryant, of Durham; D. L. Ward of Caven, and W. E. Fenner, of Nash. Each of these men have waged intensive campaigns for the past several months, each hoping to win enough votes to put him through in the caucus. Now that it is over, there is no bitterness and no hard feelings for all the candidates have served side by side in the House and all are good friends.

The two members of the General Assembly from the extreme Western counties, who have had the greatest amount of legislative experience are Senator Morpew, of Graham, and Representative Dan Tompkins, of Jackson. While Mr. Morpew is a new comer to the Senate, he has had three terms in the House and is well known in Raleigh and throughout the State. His voice will be powerful in the Senate.

Mr. Tompkins goes back with more legislative experience than anyone in the House west of Salisbury. He has served as a member of the House since 1927, and has been Speaker of the House in two special sessions and one regular session of the General Assembly.

Representative Finch, of Buncombe served in 1937, as did Mr. Kimsey, of Transylvania, Mr. Burgin, of Henderson, and Mr. Withrow, of Rutherford. Mr. Baley, Republican member from Madison, is also a second term man. Mr. Bryson, of Swain, Mr. Crawford, of Graham, Mr. Patton, of Macon, Mr. Palmer, of Haywood, and Mr. Jarrett, Republican, of Cherokee, are all first-termers.

As soon as the speaker announces his committee assignments, the House will be ready to attack the job before it, and the members hope that the work can be completed within the 90 day period, or shortly thereafter.

Some of the problems that are to be solved are vital ones. In 1936 the people amended the Constitution so as to allow classification of property for taxation, up to \$1,000 valuation. The General Assembly of 1937 failed to even take notice of the new Constitutional Amendment, and chose to forget it. Now the problem arises as to how it can be put into effect even partially, without so depleting the treasuries of the weaker counties as to make it impossible for them to meet their obligations. In fact, it appears now that it can't be done, unless the State shoulders some of the responsibility of the indebtedness that now rests upon the governmental units.

Then, as usual, the public schools will take up a lot of the time and the thought of the General Assembly. There is considerable sentiment favorable to adding a ninth month to the school term. Then the problem has come up of adding another grade to the schools, which would necessitate the employment of more teachers. One of these objectives of the educational forces may be reached, but it is not probable that both of them will be taken on at this session of the Assembly.

The matter of Social Security, or retirement fund for teachers, and others on the State Pay-roll, is sure to arise, as they constitute a large labor that is not now covered by the Social Security legislation.

And, speaking of the Social Security, there is already apparent a sentiment that would shift the entire burden of old-age assistance, blind pensioning, for example,

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## Sunday School Convention to Meet Next Sunday

The Tuckasee Baptist Sunday school convention will be held with the Webster Baptist church, next Sunday afternoon, beginning at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. This being the first meeting of the new year, large delegation from the Sunday schools of the county is expected to attend. Following is the program which is to be presented: Congregational singing, devotional, G. H. Cope, special music by Winkle quartet; roll call of Sunday schools, demonstration by adult department, in charge of D. M. Hooper; special music, Winkle quartet; talk by McKinley Edwards, of Bryson City; installation of new officers by Rev. H. M. Hoeltz; adjournment.

## Adult Education Teachers Hold All Day Meeting Here

All all day meeting of the WPA Adult Education teachers for Jackson county, was held here Tuesday, at which time Mrs. Day, State Field Representative, Mrs. Edith Jarrett Morgan, District Supervisor, and Mrs. H. T. Hunter, chairman of the Advisory Council, for the county, were present and spoke. Mrs. Hunter offered the cooperation of Western Carolina Teachers College and of the Advisory Council in the campaign against illiteracy in Jackson county.

Mrs. Mary Cowan has recently appointed head of the adult teaching staff for the county, and at the meeting Tuesday announced that a meeting of the adult teachers of the county would be held Saturday, at 10:30 at which time a program for teaching every community in the county with an adult teacher and, through local school officials, to find and teach all school patrons who cannot read and write. Mrs. Cowan's office is in the Coward House. In the meeting Tuesday it was pointed out that Jackson county has 1,204 adults who cannot read and write. There are a quarter of a million such people in North Carolina. It was stated that the cooperation of all organizations and all citizens is needed to reduce the number of illiterate in the county to the minimum by the time the census of 1940 is taken, which is the goal of the project. Every adult teacher in the county has pledged himself or herself to teach at least 60 people before June 30.

Mrs. Day said: "It is not a disgrace not to know how to read and write, but it is a disgrace not to want to know. Any citizen who knows any adult in the county who cannot read and write will be doing a neighborly deed to report any such person to Mrs. Cowan."

## Aid To Farmers For Control of Erosion

Farmers of Jackson County are losing thousands of dollars in soil wealth each year through the destructive agency of erosion. Here is an opportunity to stop at least a portion of this loss.

The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service and the Department of Forestry Relations, TVA, are launching a program for direct cooperation with farmers in fifteen counties in an effort to control soil erosion and give aid in flood prevention. The counties to be included in this program are Avery, Buncombe, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey. In Jackson County the campaign will be led by County Agent, G. R. Lackey, and Assistant County Agent, H. R. Clapp.

Plans call for the planting of 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 trees on worn-out, abandoned and eroding fields. In selecting areas for this cooperative forest planting, primary consideration will be given to the purpose of stopping or controlling existing erosion and prevention of future erosion.

The kinds of trees to be planted will include Black locust, Yellow poplar, shortleaf pine, pitch pine and Virginia Pine.

Who is eligible for aid? Any farmer who has land in need of erosion control and will agree to give reasonable cooperation in carrying out the project may avail himself of this

## Hardware Firm Here Undergoes Change

One of the oldest and most progressive business firms of the town and county changed hands with the coming of the new year, when Roy C. Allison bought the interest of John R. Jones in the Jackson Hardware Company. The consideration was not made known.

Mr. Jones will retire to his farm near Sylva and seek to build up his health before he again enters the business world in any capacity. He stated to a representative of The Journal that his best wishes for the continued success of his former partner, Mr. Allison, go with him as he assumes the sole management of the concern.

The Jackson Hardware Company was formed in 1917, when John R. Jones, then one of Jackson County's prominent young business men, and Roy C. Allison and A. O. Allison, who came here from Clay county, associated themselves together and bought the hardware business of B. H. Cathey and Company. They formed the Jackson Hardware Company, and soon became one of the best known businesses in Western North Carolina. For the past twenty-one years Mr. Allison and Mr. Jones have operated the business, and it has taken a place of leadership in the business and civic enterprises of the town and county.

Mr. Allison announced that the business will continue the same progressive and aggressive policies that have marked it in the past. He has long been a leader in the civic and church life of the community, as has Mr. Jones. He has been President of the Sylva Chamber of Commerce and has served the trade body in some capacity almost continuously since its organization. Both Mr. Allison and Mr. Jones have served the town as members of the board of aldermen, and Mr. Jones was register of deeds of the county before he entered business here.

The Jackson Hardware Company has also been a leader in the development of the agricultural interests of the county, realizing that its success depended largely upon a progressive and prosperous farm population in the county.

Mr. Allison, in talking with The Journal, stated that he expects the Jackson Hardware Company to continue to serve the interests of the people of the county, and that assisting them in a every possible manner, selling them good hardware at a fair price, and continuing to merit their confidence and patronage, will be his policy, as he takes over the management and control of the business.

## Rites Are Held for Mrs. Frank G. Brown on December 26

Funeral services for Mrs. Frank G. Brown were held at the Methodist church at Cullowhee, at 2 o'clock on Christmas Day. Rev. C. G. Hefner, pastor of the church, conducted the service.

Mrs. Brown died at her home in Cullowhee early in the evening of December 23, after an extended illness. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Robert Abbott, of West Asheville, and Miss Katherine Brown and by one son, Edwin Brown, of Cullowhee.

## Monteith Speaks At PTA

Hugh E. Monteith, Sylva attorney, was the principal speaker at the meeting of the Sylva Parent-Teacher Association, which was held at the elementary school, on Tuesday afternoon.

During the business session of the association, it was announced that approximately \$65.00 was netted from the sales of Christmas seals, sponsored by the association, seventy-five per cent of which amount will be used for the benefit of undernourished children in the school.

The next meeting of the association will be held at 3:30 o'clock of the afternoon of February 7, and will be an anniversary meeting.

opportunity to secure forest tree seedlings to plant on these waste areas and thereby stop erosion and bring these fields into productive use.

Application blanks are now available at the County Agent's office. Interested farmers should see Mr. Lackey or Mr. Clapp at once so they may get an early start and accomplish much work before the winter season sets in.

## TODAY and TOMORROW - by FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

EDEN

I had an opportunity to sit directly in front of Capt. Anthony Eden, the young British statesman, on his recent visit of America, to listen to him in informal conversation and to size up his personality. He made as good an impression on me as he did on all the other Americans he met.

Few men have gone as far as he in the affairs of their own countries or in world affairs at the age of 41.

He has good looks without being "pretty," a good voice in which he speaks very much like an American, with a slight trace of Yorkshire accent. He gives the impression that he knows what he is talking about.

I think Americans respect Capt. Eden because he has the courage of his convictions. He resigned as the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs because he did not approve Mr. Chamberlain's policy of trying to appease Hitler and Mussolini.

In the troublous times ahead in Europe I believe the English people will call Capt. Eden back into public service. He will be one British leader who understands the attitude of America, and that is important, since our interests and those of England, I believe, are rapidly growing together. We may again have to stand at England's side against Germany.

NEWS

One of the remarks which Capt. Eden made that interested me particularly was that he had been surprised to find how well-informed Americans are about what is going on in the rest of the world. That is because, he said, our great newspapers report the news of Europe and other countries even more fully than do the English papers.

We are the greatest newspaper reading nation in the world. In spite of all the distractions of modern life, automobiles, radio, movies and the rest, we still have time to read 2,600 daily newspapers and more than 10,000 weekly papers. American newspapers are growing steadily in circulation and influence. They give the people more news, better presented, than ever before.

The great American press services cover the whole world with American-trained reporters, instead of relying, as they did before the World War, on foreign sources for news of other nations. Capt. Eden remarked that it often happened that Englishmen did not learn the news of their own nation and the British colonies until the American papers arrived.

FINGERPRINTS . . . protection

Not long ago I saw in the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington the enormous files of fingerprints of millions of persons, so indexed and classified that when a new finger-print comes in it can be identified at once if it is that of a person whose prints are already in the file.

Of course, most of the prints are of criminals, but more than a million are prints voluntarily recorded for use in case of accident or for personal identification for any other reason.

This plan of voluntary recording of ones fingerprints in Washington is growing in popular favor. It has served to identify people who have been killed or injured away from home, children who have been separated from their parents, to enable applicants for important jobs to prove that they are the persons named in their letters of recommendation, and for many other useful purposes.

I have long believed that every child born in the United States and every immigrant should be fingerprinted and the record kept on file. It would prevent many impositions, and it would also make it possible to identify spies of foreign powers and agitators who come here to try to propagate anti-American doctrines.

PENSIONS . . . identification

One of the difficulties about the Old Age Pension system set up under the Social Security Act is that it may be hard for a worker reaching the age of 65 to prove that he or she is the one to whom a Social Security number was issued twenty or forty years before. That would be easy if everyone

## Seventy-Sixth Congress Settles Down To Work

QUALLA

(By Mrs. J. K. Terrell)

Mrs. Emerson Cathey went to Webster to attend the funeral of her sister, Miss Mary Thomas, who died at the home of her parents on Thursday, Dec. 22.

There was a program and Christmas tree at the Baptist church on Saturday afternoon. The pastor, F. V. Ben Cook, preached Sunday morning.

Miss Clara Buntain, of Cullowhee, spent a few days, visiting in Qualla. She was a former teacher at this place.

A family dinner reception was given on Christmas day with Mrs. A. C. Hoyle and Mrs. J. H. Hughes.

Mr. J. E. Hoyle and family, of Thomasville, spent the week-end with Mrs. Chas. Ward and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Trull, of Bethel, are visiting at Mr. H. G. Ferguson's.

Mrs. D. M. Shuler visited her father, Mr. M. L. Blanton, at Deep Creek.

Mrs. Ellis Stockton and son, of Canton, spent last week at Mr. P. H. Ferguson's.

Miss Nell McLaughlin, of Murphy, Miss Gertrude Ferguson, of Almond, Mr. Chas. McLaughlin and Miss Annie Ruth McLaughlin, of Cullowhee, spent the holidays with homefolk.

Mr. C. B. Terrell visited relatives in Asheville last week.

Rev. C. L. Fisher and Mr. H. G. Ferguson visited at Mr. J. K. Terrell's.

A generous treat arranged by Supt. Mr. J. E. Freeman was given the entire Sunday school at the Methodist church Christmas morning.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO Tuckasee Democrat, Jan. 5, 1889

Sylva has three stores, three stores, a depot, postoffice, express office, telephone and telegraph office, a school and church building, a printing office, blacksmith shop, shoe shop, barber shop, livery stable, lumber yard, sawmill, flouring mill, besides a lawyer, physician and a number of carpenters.

The youth, beauty and maturity of the good town of Webster were present at the New Year's Entertainment of the Sylva Literary Club Tuesday night.

The firm of Hall, Smith & Co., has dissolved partnership and the business will be conducted at the same stand by Mr. L. C. Hall.

Sylva needs an incorporation. Every slight rain puts the streets in an almost impassable condition. The railroad track is the only thing resembling a sidewalk. Let us adopt some plan to remedy the evil.

Our county seat was enlivened by Christmas week by an intensely interesting entertainment. . . Dillsboro celebrated Christmas tree on the night of the 25th has concluded the gayeties of the season with a supper New Year's night. Both were successful. The Quallatown Methodist Sunday school commemorated our Lords Birthday with a Christmas tree and other appropriate exercises.

Senator L. J. Smith left on Friday's train for Raleigh. Representatives George A. Jones, of Macon, J. A. Franks, of Swain, and W. A. Dills, of this county, passed through Friday, enroute for the State Capital.

Having disposed of the management of the Democratic to Messrs. R. L. Madison, F. A. Luck, Sr., and F. A. Luck, Jr., all persons indebted to me on past subscriptions or advertising are notified that they can make settlement with them and I will recognize same. E. R. Hampton.

registered under the law had his or her fingerprints on his card and on file in Washington.

They are planning to extend the benefits of the Social Security law to domestic servants and farm workers. The way the tax will be collected will be by stamps which the employer will buy at the Post Office and paste on the employee's card every week or month. That has been the system in Germany for years.

I don't like the idea of putting everybody under the eye of the Government all the time, but in a country as big as ours maybe it's a good plan to make it possible to find out whether anyone is who he pretends to be. Fingerprinting voters might be a great help in keeping elections honest, for example,

Washington, Jan. 4.—As the new Congress gets down to business and the legislative program for the session begins to assume form, members of both houses find themselves wondering how they are going to work out a compromise between the demands for continued and increased spending of Federal funds, on the one hand and for economy and retrenchment on the other hand.

There is no doubt that the temper of the 76th Congress on the whole, is toward economy. Leaders and a great part of the membership of both parties would like to cut expenditures but the pressure of well-organized lobbies added to what are generally regarded as necessary extra expenses may easily prove too much for the well-intentioned ones who would like to see the Federal government get out of the red by keeping its costs within its income.

If the present feeling that it is necessary to balance the budget continues, those most experienced in estimating future actions of Congress look for a broad increase in general business will pick up so that the national taxable income will be large enough to provide all the money necessary.

But unless there are definite indications of such an increase in the course of the next few months, the tax bill which will be enacted before the end of June is likely to contain brackets and probably an extension downward of the income tax base to include several million persons who now pay no direct taxes to the Federal treasury.

To Amend Social Security

Among the items which will call for greater expenditures is the plan for amending the Social Security Act to make payment of Old Age Pensions begin in 1940 instead of 1941, and to increase the benefits for those now approaching the retirement age.

Some criticism to this law seems certain, as it increases the demands of the Townsend Plan advocates, and others calling for federal pensions for the elderly. The project of submitting a Constitutional amendment for old age pensions to the people probably will not be carried through, but it is fairly certain that the whole Townsend Plan and similar projects will have a thorough airing at committee hearings and in debates on the floor of both houses.

As another measure of social reform, the prospect is for lively agitation in favor of some plan of providing medical care for everybody, whether at government expense, or by a system of voluntary or enforced individual contributions. Sentiment on this idea has not yet "jelled" in either house to the point where the likelihood of such action can be estimated, but it is certain it will be a subject on which there will be much discussion.

Farm Problem

One of the organized demands which Congress will have to face is that of the Farmers Union for a continuation of the Agricultural Act of 1938, with an appropriation of 800 million dollars. M. W. Thatcher, legislative representative of the Farmers Union, has served notice on Congress that if this is not granted the result will be a rebellion in the Middle West which cannot be put down with cut in the use of the Army.

Flow-take that threat too seriously, but the farm relief problem is still a perplexing one. Secretary Wallace points to the recent vote on the continuation of the cotton quotas, as proof that the farmer likes his present program, and will be insistent in his demand for its continuation.

The Work Relief problem is another difficult one. The general feeling in Congress is that the whole relief problem should be turned back to the states, with such Federal aid as may be required.

The W. P. A. matter touches on the conflict between Congress and the Administration, which is not as serious on the surface as it is in the private conversations of members of both the President's party and the Opposition.

The fear of Federal domination is a constant and growing one regarding the power of party lines, whether through W. P. A. and other Federal spendings, or by other means. Political parties act on that state, county

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